

## **Leon Martin Flanagan**

Born and raised in Greenville, South Carolina, with my father's first name (Leon) and my mother's maiden name (Martin). I was always called Martin rather than by the first name, Leon. My early schooling was in the public schools in Greenville. No athletic abilities or accomplishments. However, I had a passion for scouting and participated for many years from Cub Scouts through Boy Scouts, accomplishing the rank of Eagle, and beyond that, gold palm, and the Order of the Arrow.

I was in the high school class of 1949, being the first year that South Carolina required four years of English, instead of three years, to get a high school diploma.

Along with a classmate, Alfred Moore, I was accepted at the Citadel in the Fall of 1949 without a high school diploma. Alfred and I took the fourth year of English by a correspondence course from the University of South Carolina, and while we were sophomores at the Citadel, obtained a high school diploma. We were presented a diploma (State of South Carolina - High School) in the office of the Principal of Greenville High School. Being a class of two, and the fact that Alfred was the smart one, I was salutatorian of my high school class.

I graduated with a degree in Political Science from Citadel in 1953, and served in U.S. Army 1953 - 1955, as well as several years in Army Reserves, ending with the rank of Captain.

I received an LLB Degree from University of Virginia in 1958, and JD in 1970.

I was admitted to practice in South Carolina in 1958 and in Florida in 1959.

I was in private practice in West Palm Beach, Florida beginning in 1959. The size of the law firm of Jones, Adams, Paine and Foster was six lawyers in 1959. Over the years it grew to as many as fifty lawyers, and for a number of years fluctuated between thirty and fifty. I was senior "partner" in the firm at the time of retirement in 1990. My specialties were medical malpractice and product liability. The law practice consisted primarily of civil trial.

In addition to practice of law, I have been a municipal judge, councilman, president of Florida Defense Lawyers Association, lecturer, member of American Board of Trial Advocates (Diplomate), member of the national Products Liability Advisory Counsel, and member of various associations related to the practice of law. My rating in Martindale-Hubble is A.v.

Other than activities related to the practice of law, I have been a member of the West Palm Beach Kiwanis for a number of years, being honored as Member of the Year for two different years and have served on the Board of Directors. I have also served on